



FIRE ENGINE COMPANY NO. 25

2140 McCULLOH STREET

CHAP
LANDMARK DESIGNATION

AUGUST, 2002

Staff Recommendation

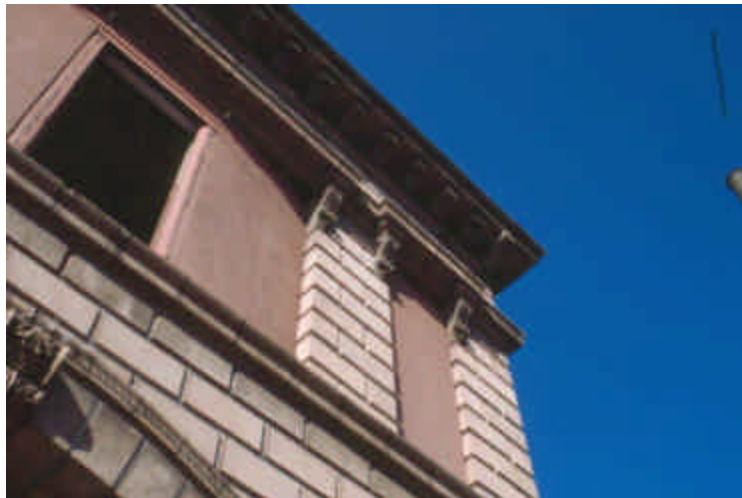
Engine Company #25 Firehouse at 2140 McCulloh Street meets the Baltimore City Commission for Historical and Architectural Preservation Landmark Standards for Designation. The Engine No. 25 Firehouse meets CHAP Landmark Criteria:

- 1. Dates from a particular period having a significant character, interest, or value, as part of the development, heritage, or culture of the City of Baltimore; or*
- 4. Is significant of the architectural period in which it was built and has distinguishing characteristics of an architectural style, method of construction, or engineering, Or is the notable work of a master builder, designer, engineer, artist, or architect whose individual genius influenced his age.*





The Engine Company No. 25 Firehouse was constructed in 1903 and the company first placed in service on January 14, 1904. It is still in its original location at 2140 McCulloh Street, southeast corner of McCulloh and Gold Streets in the Druid Heights neighborhood. When constructed in 1903 the building cost a hefty \$31,630 dollars.



The firehouse is Classical Revival style brick and terracotta structure with heavily molded terra cotta floral embellishment, mainly on the Gold Street (North) elevation. The exterior and interior has not been altered from its original construction. There is a substantial cornice around most of the building. The stone block used for the facade is rusticated. There are five sash windows on the second story, with three arranged together in the center, the outer two of which are angled inward. There is a string course forming a sill for these windows. There is another string course that curves around the segmental arch for the equipment door. A symmetrical building, it was necessary to use two personnel doors, on either side of the equipment door, to maintain the symmetry.



When the station first opened, firefighters used an 1898 LaFrance steam engine, drawn by three horses, along with two Holloway horse wagons drawn by two horses. It was with that equipment that Engine Company no. 25 used to answer their first fire call on February 7, 1904. The Great Baltimore Fire.



The first motorized unit arrived in 1913- a Mack A.B. Jr. Chassis hose wagon with two thirty-five gallon tanks and a “huge” eighteen foot ladder. Ten years later Engine Company no. 25 got its first modern Ahrens Fox Pumper complete with a 50 gallon water tank, and balloon tires. By 1947, tank capacity at the station was up to 250 gallons, and pneumatic tires, running boards, and side cabinets were standard equipment. Over the next 25 years, upgrades were steadily made to the station’s equipment. On September 5, 1988 the engine company disbanded and the station closed.